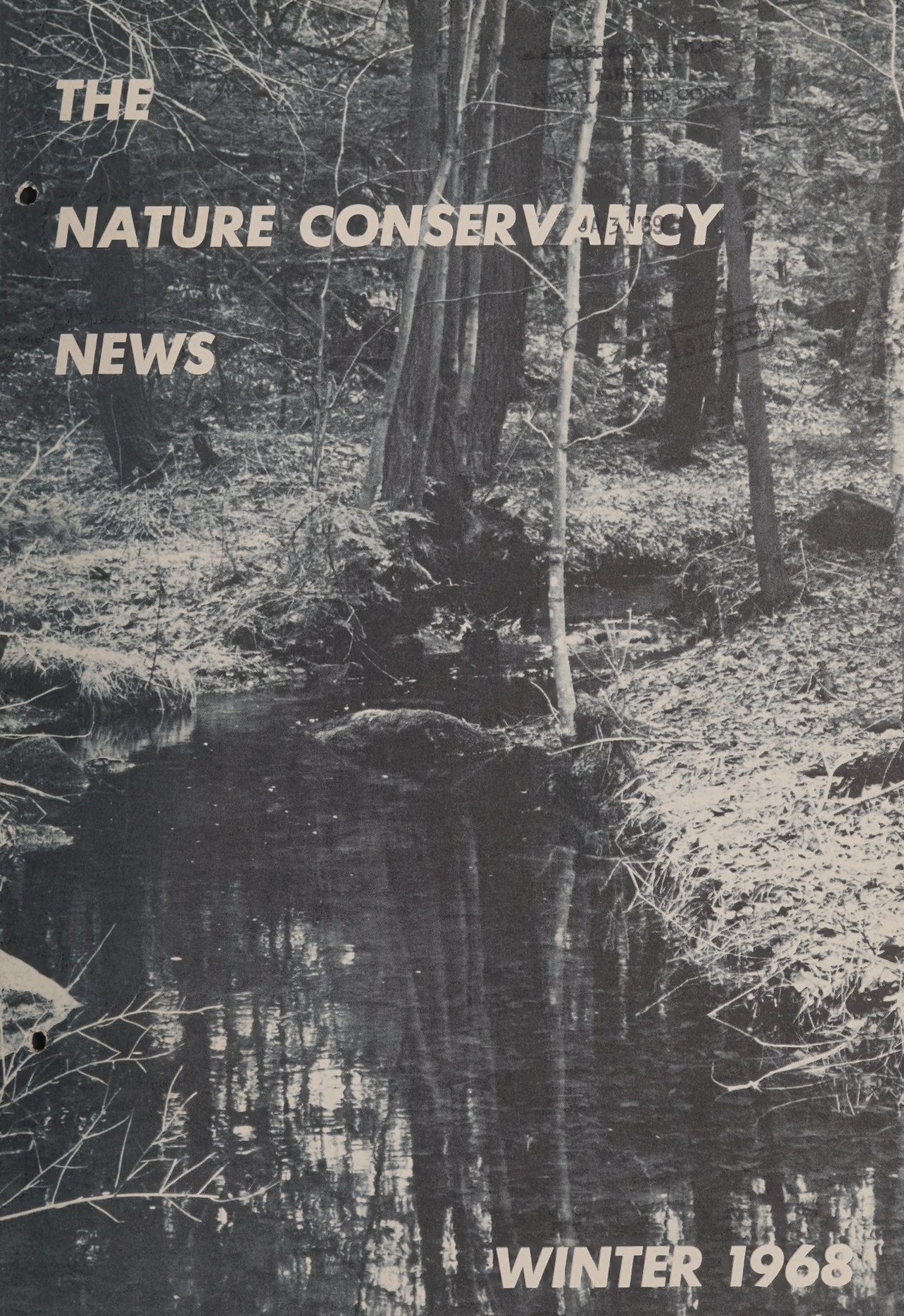

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY NEWS

WINTER 1968

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Evanston, Illinois

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Mr. Paul L. Smith
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Mr. Thornton Thomas
Medina, Washington

A Life Membership in The Nature Conservancy is conferred upon the payment of $300 designated for the Guarantee & Income Fund. This fund serves a two-fold purpose. The securities in which the fund is invested may be used as collateral for loans to aid land preservation projects which the Board of Governors decides are worthy of interim financing. At the same time, the income from the investments supports the national as well as the chapter operations of the Conservancy.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

The Nature Conservancy is a member-governed organization, incorporated in the District of Columbia for non-profit educational and scientific purposes. The National Office is in Washington, D.C., and Regional Offices are located in San Francisco, Evanston, and Washington.

The Nature Conservancy was incorporated in 1951. The Conservancy's first effort at land-saving was the Mianus River Gorge in Westchester County, New York, in 1954. This highly successful endeavor turned out to be the forerunner of 319 projects in which the Conservancy has since been involved. These 319 sanctuaries are located in forty states and total very nearly 100,000 acres.

The Nature Conservancy works closely not only with numerous scientific and conservation organizations but with municipal and state governments as well as the federal government.

The Nature Conservancy is the organization rallying the skills, the techniques, and the funds actually necessary to save land. Its total resources are massed for this one objective.

THE
NATURE CONSERVANCY
NEWS

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Washington, D. C. 20005

William Canine, Editor

Volume 18, No. 3 Winter 1968

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Cover: Frederic C. Walcott Preserve, Connecticut

Westport, Connecticut

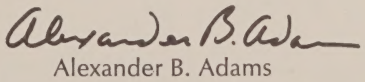
In the three regional offices of The Nature Conservancy as well as the National Office, the telephones rang more persistently than is usual on a Monday morning. For on the day before, the Ford Foundation had released its news of a $6,000,000 guaranteed line of credit to the Conservancy for the purchase of lands to be held for federal land acquisition programs. Most of the country's leading newspapers had recognized the news as a story of a great conservation breakthrough and featured it as such in their Sunday editions.

And indeed it is an important breakthrough, not only for conservation but for the Conservancy, in a position now to do more for the country than in the past. By purchasing tracts for the Forest Service, the National Parks Service, and the Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife when they become available, the Conservancy can help put a halt to the shocking escalation in land prices which has become habitual when government purchase plans become known.

Working in cooperation with the federal government is not a new role for The Nature Conservancy; major purchases for federal agencies in just the past eighteen months have included St. Vincent Island in Florida and Mason Neck in Virginia, each a multi-million-dollar project. Rather, our role will be a greatly expanded one.

Nor does this public-spirited move by the Ford Foundation in any way threaten to inhibit the traditional activities of the Conservancy. The smaller areas, the "living museums" as we at one time customarily called our projects, those precious areas either too small or too valuable scientifically for consideration as parks or national sanctuaries, remain a major concern of The Nature Conservancy. Actually, with the newfound potential of borrowing against a vastly greater guaranteed line of credit, an increased proportion of the Matching and Loan Fund will be available for purchase of those rare and valuable examples of woodland, marsh, prairie, shore, and desert with which we have so persistently concerned ourselves for fifteen years.

Since it is always my major concern when thinking of the Conservancy's continued usefulness, I should mention that the Ford Foundation's action, rather than lessening our needs for contributions to national operations, increases that need. Every expansion of our activity means that more funds are needed to keep the Conservancy going. It is vital that those people who are in sympathy with the Conservancy's objectives and have the means to assist know about our work. Perhaps you yourself are in a position to explain the Conservancy to a potential supporter. If you are and if you do so, you are doing your country what could be the greatest favor possible.



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PROVIDING A PRIVATE ANSWER TO A PUBLIC PERIL

United States newspapers devoted major space to the announcement by the Ford Foundation of its guarantee of a $6,000,000 line of credit to The Nature Conservancy for the purchase of lands for the executive agencies of the federal government. The news, released in mid-November, was featured by the New York *Times* on page one of its Sunday, November 10 edition. Newspapers in Washington, San Francisco, San Diego, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Albany, Indianapolis, and numerous other cities gave the story important play in their Sunday editions.

Editorial comment during the following week was profuse and altogether favorable. Feature stories on the Conservancy appeared in the Washington *Star* and the *Christian Science Monitor*. All in all, the space devoted to the Conservancy in the eight-day period of November 10-18 must have represented the most massive publicity the Conservancy has ever received.

U.S. FOREST SERVICE

Clark National Forest in Missouri, within which the Conservancy is holding a 3,179 acre tract (the Estes Tract) for the United States Forest Service.

There are several abundantly good reasons for the newspapers' enthusiasm for Ford's action, and the editorial from the Sunday New York *Times* of November 18, reprinted on the opposite page, illustrates these.

Unfortunately, several newspapers headlined Ford's move as a "grant." In no sense of the word is it such. What the Ford Foundation is doing in cooperation with The Nature Conservancy is briefly this: the foundation is providing a guarantee on the basis of which the Conservancy has established lines of credit to provide up to $6,000,000, which may be borrowed to purchase lands for the Forest Service, the National Parks Service, and the Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife. The two banks participating in the plan are the Manufacturers Hanover Trust Company of New York City and the First State Bank of Albany, New York.

The obligation thus laid on the Conservancy is an important and a heavy one. Only for actual cash outlay and direct expenses of managing the program will the Conservancy be reimbursed. In addition, the government is under no obligation to purchase those lands The Nature Conservancy has purchased for it. Although only lands included in projects authorized by Congress will be purchased, and then only on the request of the responsible agency, the Conservancy can have no commitment from the government for the land's repurchase. Congress can, in other words, revise its land acquisition plans. In such a case, title to the property would remain with the Conservancy, which would attempt to recover its funds by the sale of the land to other buyers.

The program is described by Ford as a "major experiment to attack escalating land prices — a problem that has seriously eroded Federal programs of acquisition of parks and other open space." Gordon Harrison, program officer in charge of the Ford Foundation's Resources and Environment effort, said, "Under normal circumstances, approximately twelve to eighteen months elapse between the time that Congress authorizes a project and the time when the appropriation becomes available and the acquiring agency can

have land purchasers in the field. In addition to the normal increase in land values that may occur during that period, an opportunity is provided for real estate speculators to buy the key tracts and inflate their price.

"This speculation is not only greatly increasing the cost to the tax-payers of the government's open-space program, it is threatening its very existence, as there are not sufficient funds available even to cover the cost of projects already authorized. Congress has even been considering declaring a moratorium on all further land purchases, but that would bring the entire program to a halt."

In the past, the Conservancy has assisted numerous government agencies — federal, state, and municipal — with their land acquisition programs by making purchases in emergency situations when public funds were not immediately available. The money for such purchases comes from the Conservancy's revolving funds or lines of credit established previously with commercial sources. Outstanding examples cited by the press are Upper Priest Lake, Idaho, and the Forest of Nisene Marks, California. (For an account of a recent threat to the Forest of Nisene Marks, see page 6.)

Secretary of State Stewart Udall's comment on the Ford Foundation announcement was that "the foundation's action will enable the highly effective Nature Conservancy to play a more effective role than ever before."

The Ford Foundation's guarantee to The Nature Conservancy is the largest in its new series of program-related investments, announced in October. At that time, the Foundation announced its decision to place part of its investment portfolio into ventures aiding the poor, minority groups, and conservation, rather than into enterprises offering greater financial return. According to the Minneapolis *Tribune,* this is "believed to be the first time that a leading foundation has decided to go beyond the conventional stock market goal of income and growth and seek what Ford termed 'a high social yield' from a regular share of its investment."

The Cleveland *Plain-Dealer* commented editorially, "Taxpayers will be saved countless dollars by the effective teamwork of these public and private agencies." Said the San Diego *Evening Tribune,* "Often the Conservancy, check in hand, has rushed in just ahead of real estate and other developers to reserve irreplaceable wild areas and open spaces for public agencies. . . . The efforts of the Nature Conservancy have resulted in significant savings . . . in inflated land costs."

Steadily rising land prices have proved almost as much of a threat to the environment as pesticides or pollution. Farms which once served as natural "green belts" between communities have given way to suburban sprawl as landowners reap larger profits from capital gains than from tilling the soil. Seashores and lakefronts are vulgarized and their natural defenses against erosion weakened as the developers rush to put up their jerry-built cottages.

Every time any unit of government acts to protect the land, it finds itself in an expensive race with the speculators. The problem is particularly acute at the Federal level because of the usual delay of twelve to eighteen months between Congressional authorization of a new park or seashore and the actual appropriation of money to buy the land. Once begun, the process of acquisition can drag on for several years. During that time acreage usually goes up in value 5 to 10 per cent a year, often more spectacularly . . .

[As an example] the land for the Point Reyes National Seashore, which had a market value of $14 million a few years ago, has quadrupled to $57 million.

Such inflated prices are a direct menace to the acquisition of future parks, seashores, and open space. To meet this menace the Ford Foundation has now taken the extremely important step of establishing a $6-million fund that will insure speedy purchase of properties that the Government can buy back for conservation purposes when it has the funds — and at no profit to the Ford Foundation's agent, the Nature Conservancy. This imaginative innovation is part of the Ford Foundation's new policy of seeking dividends as well as financial income from its investments.

Congress made its own attack on the land price problem in the Redwood National Park Act this year when it directed the Department of Interior to take immediate title and negotiate the price later. This approach should be extended to other acquisitions; but until it is, the Ford Foundation and the Nature Conservancy are performing a vital service to conservation by providing a private answer to a public peril.

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CONSERVANCY FRUSTRATES BID TO FLOOD PARK

Reprinted from the Watsonville (Calif.)
Register-Pajaronian

The proposed dam that would have flooded parts of Nisene Marks Park above Aptos will not be built now, 10 years from now, or ever, as far as The Nature Conservancy is concerned.

The Western Regional Director of the Conservancy, Huey D. Johnson, said, "The facts prove the dam is not needed. Not only will it violate a public trust and flood prime dedicated gift lands within an increasingly popular state park, but the dam would be exorbitantly expensive, unnecessary, and ill-founded."

This was merely the latest round in a continuing battle between county officials, who want to see a dam built on Aptos Creek to meet future water needs in the mid-county, and the Conservancy, which helped make the park possible.

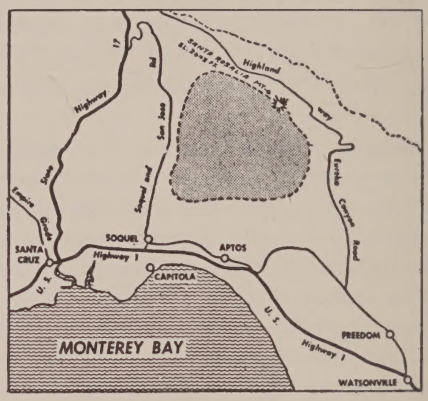
The Conservancy last year through its friends, forced dropping of a bill in the legislature that would have required the state director of parks and recreation to negotiate with Santa Cruz County to convey to the county part of Marks State Park as a site for a dam and reservoir in Aptos Creek.

The Conservancy opposed and still opposes such a dam on many grounds. It says a dam and reservoir would ruin the park, which even now is attracting more than 20,000 visitors a year. It maintains the water is not needed now, because a surplus already exists, and that if and when it is needed, Soquel Creek would provide a superior site.

The Conservancy also argues that in choosing the Aptos site, the county failed to make a ground water study, ignored other engineering studies, and suggests there is a potential danger to a dam because of the proximity of the San Andreas and Zayante Faults.

The Conservancy, however, also has a trump card to play. One of the conditions under which the park lands were deeded to the state (the Conservancy was go-between in the arrangement between the Marks family and the state) was that if anything upset the requirement that the land be kept in its natural state, the land would revert to the Nature Conservancy.

In other words, if the legislature had passed a bill directing the state to turn over part of the park to the county for a dam site, the park land would have become the property of the Conservancy. In that case, the county would have had to condemn the property through the courts, and Nature Conservancy has said the county would have to pay the top going price for the land. Such a high price would be too much to justify a dam on Aptos Creek.



In California, the Forest of Nisene Marks is being preserved as a wilderness area. Shaded area shows the preserve's location in Santa Cruz County. The park was acquired by the state for a small sum as a memorial to Nisene Marks.

Nevertheless, while the Conservancy argues that taking part of the park for a dam and reservoir would violate a public trust, the county's master plan still calls for construction of a dam on Aptos Creek. However, the plan now calls for the dam to be built in the next decade or two.

This is a retreat. Apparently plans have been abandoned to attempt to push a dam through in the immediate future.

PROBLEMS IN MANAGING NATURAL AREAS

by FRANK S. HAM

A theoretical physicist with General Electric Laboratories, Mr. Ham originated the idea of a Conservancy project at Lisha Kill, raised the funds to see the project through, and is currently in charge of it. He is a trustee of the Eastern New York Chapter.

Several problems in the managing of natural areas are illustrated by two such areas with which I have had personal experience. One of these is the Lisha Kill Natural Area, owned by The Nature Conservancy. The other is a privately owned tract situated in the southern foothills of the Adirondacks, which I shall call "The Falls."

The Lisha Kill Natural Area contains some 100 acres of woodland and a portion of the stream valley of the Lisha Kill. Located at the heart of the Albany-Schenectady-Troy metropolitan area and surrounded by suburban residential areas, it is easily accessible to large numbers of people. The Natural Area is maintained as a nature sanctuary, but visitors are encouraged to use the area both for serious nature study and for simple enjoyment of undisturbed nature. To facilitate such use, while holding to a minimum the effects of human interference with natural processes, a network of paths is maintained, and visitors are asked to remain on these paths. There are no roads into the Natural Area, and access by vehicle of any sort (or by horseback) is not permitted.

The Falls is a lovely glen, where among ancient hemlocks and yellow birches a mountain stream cascades over moss and polypody-covered rocks. At the foot of the falls is a large pool which has become popular with local summer residents as a swimming hole. Though the property has never been developed, a dirt road leads from a highway some 200 yards away and allows vehicles to reach the brink of the upper falls. Over the years the owner has occasionally tried to restrict public access to his property and especially to block use of the dirt road, but his efforts have been frustrated by the persistence of his visitors, who have on occasion smashed a concrete and stone gate to get their cars into the property.

Despite steadily increasing visitor use of Lisha Kill, both by individuals and by school and Scout groups on nature and field trips, problems of administration have so far remained modest. The principal tasks have been the making of trails, maintenance of boundary signs and strategically placed maps, and the removal of litter. Most visitors who walk into a natural area are evidently reluctant to be the first to leave litter, but it is essential that the inevitable litter dropped by a few visitors be picked up thoroughly and regularly, before it attracts more. In marking trails and boundaries, we have found that distinctive signs or markers that may be considered collectors' items disappear in a few weeks. For this reason we now use inexpensive, water-resistant paper signs to post the boundaries, and as trail markers we place small pieces of yellow plastic tape high enough on trunks of trees to be out of easy reach. As a rule of thumb, we find that we have no serious trouble keeping signs and markers in place if it is easier for us to put the marker up than it is for the average youthful visitor to get it down.

Litter is a far more serious problem at The Falls, where despite an area much smaller than the Lisha Kill the accumulation (principally beer cans) is many times larger — some two trashcans full a month accumulate during the summer season. Keeping the property picked up also seems to have little effect on the rate of accumulation. The principal source of the trash seems not to be the swimmers so much as picnickers, particularly those who drive their cars into the property at night and dispose of the beer cans from their cars by throwing them down the slopes. Picnickers and campers have also been responsible for occasional campfires, which as often as not have been built among the roots of trees.

While undesired uses of the property (such as fires and the destruction of plants and trees) have not on balance been a serious source of concern at Lisha Kill, such activities are a major problem at The Falls. Comparison of the two situations strongly suggests the conclusion that permitting vehicular access to a property brings a type of visitor who would not otherwise walk very far from his car and who has little concern for the preservation of the attractiveness of a natural area. Furthermore, once a road exists into

a property and visitors are accustomed to having such access, it is evidently extremely difficult to close the road to such traffic. The lesson in connection with other Nature Conservancy properties (and possible projects in accessible locations) is obvious.

DANIEL SMILEY

Lisha Kill, New York

A conclusion to be drawn from both the Lisha Kill and The Falls is that undesired uses can be controlled only if the area is regularly and frequently patrolled by those who are responsible for supervision of the area. Such patrolling will have to be increasingly frequent in Lisha Kill as the number of people using the area increases; however, Lisha Kill's location in a populated area makes it relatively easy to provide such care at all times of the year by local members of the Conservancy. The owner of The Falls has a more difficult problem since he visits his property infrequently; to end the property's abuse he would evidently have to arrange for more or less continuous supervision of his property, at least during the critical summer months. Similar arrangements would evidently be necessary for any Nature Conservancy preserve in a similar situation.

CONSERVANCY CHAIRMAN WRITES ON THE GREAT NATURALISTS

In 1961, Alexander B. Adams, who was then The Nature Conservancy's president and is now Chairman of the Board of Governors, was described in an article in *Advertising Age* as the "versatile adman." Today, though he is no longer an adman (at that time he was advertising vice president of Bankers Trust Company of New York), he is just as versatile and this month sees the publication of his fourth book.

A graduate of Philips Academy and Yale, Mr. Adams is the author of *Thoreau's Guide to Cape Cod, Handbook of Practical Public Relations, John James Audubon: A Biography,* and now a new work, *Eternal Quest: the Story of the Great Naturalists. (Putnam [1969] $10; 448 pp., illustrated.)*

When *John James Audubon* was published in 1966, reviewers recognized in its author a first-rate biographer. Writing in the *Library Journal,* Dr. Walter Harding describes Mr. Adams' new book as "an equally superb series of biographical studies of the major naturalists of the 18th and 19th centuries, from Linnaeus to Thomas Huxley." Continuing, he says that the book "is indeed more than a collection of biographies: it is an integrated history of the development of natural science over these years, showing how each of these men was inspired by and built on the structure of his predecessors."

Today, after his writing is done, Mr. Adams tries to devote all his time to the Conservancy. In order to do so, he has resigned from the many other boards upon which he formerly was active. His business activity is now restricted to the board chairmanship of R. H. Sullivan, Inc., a New York public relations firm. But he continues to serve on the board of the Mianus Gorge Preserve and on the Conservation Committee of the Environmental Defense Fund, and he is also an honorary curator-at-large of the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh.

But the "versatile adman" of 1961, when his versatility was perhaps measured as much by the range of his activities as the range of his interests, today, though as far-ranging as ever in his interests, devotes full time to one cause: conservation and natural history.

BOOKS

VANISHING WILD ANIMALS OF THE WORLD, by Richard Fitter. *Franklin Watts, Inc. (1968) $7.95; 144 pp., illustrated by John Leigh Pemberton.*

The rarest of the earth's surviving mammals now seems to be the aye-aye, of which species 20 individuals survive on an island sanctuary off Madagascar. A reserve at the western end of Java holds the last two dozen Javan rhinos on earth. Up until 200 years ago, mammalian species only occasionally became extinct, but now the process has speeded up until it is estimated a mammal a year vanishes forever, and, according to Mr. Fitter, "between 250 and 300 candidates for extinction" are "waiting in the wings."

The plight of the blue whale, the sea otter, the oryx, the black-footed ferret, the orangutan, the giant panda, and the polar bear is well known to everyone who has the capacity to value uniqueness for itself. The plight of numerous other species, some charming to man's eyes and some not so charming, is less well known.

Such a book as this one is by its nature a sad book, cataloguing as it must man's cruelties and stupidities; yet the author finds cause for hope, at least for those species that can capture the imagination of *Homo sapiens* or convince him of a value other than intrinsic. The koala did it. It's a Machiavellian game, true: exploit a species to the brink of oblivion, then magnanimously protect the remaining few individuals and see whether the species can recover.

Only within an ecosystem can a species exist in the wild. This is the main rule of conservation. Only in the habitat to which it has become adapted can it survive. The mammal, like everything else within the ecosystem, is an integral part of it. "As rare species are frequently tied to a particular habitat or microhabitat, it follows that if their stocks are to be maintained or built up, the existing energy flow through the habitat must either be maintained or better still steered in their direction. Thus *conservation* is quite different from the old idea of *preservation,* which consisted of merely fencing in a piece of land and leaving it alone."

This splendidly written and illustrated book is a bargain, thanks to England's Midland Bank, whose subsidization of the work accounts for its moderate price.

W.C.

ANIMALS IN DANGER: The Story of Vanishing American Wildlife, by Frances and Dorothy Wood. *Dodd, Mead & Company (1968) $4.95; 181 pp., illustrated with photographs.*

Although intended for younger readers, this book might well be of interest to the novice (beginning) naturalist of any age. In non-technical language, it outlines the life history of dozens of endangered North American species — avian, mammalian, reptilian — and explains the reasons for their decline.

In addition to covering the well-known vanishing species, such as the whooping crane and the bald eagle, the book describes the plight of such less spectacular but equally interesting creatures as the Kirtland's warbler, the Utah prairie dog, and the Devil's Hole pupfish.

The authors objectively point out the problems presented to animals by population encroachment, habitat destruction, and pesticides. They also give an accurate rundown of what can be or is being done to correct such problems and thereby perhaps prevent the extinction of threatened species.

Of special interest to members of the Conservancy will be the accounts of those species which are given their best chance of survival by preservation of habitat. The authors call The Nature Conservancy's re-discovery of the Maui nukupuu in the Valley of the Seven Sacred Pools one of "the exciting news stories of the year."

T.B.

WILD SANCTUARIES, by Robert Murphy. *E. P. Dutton & Company, Inc. (1968) $22.50; 288 pp., 250 photographs, 32 maps.*

In this beautifully and copiously illustrated volume, Robert Murphy vividly portrays our national wildlife refuge system. The volume, according to the author, is for the many people who share his interests, yet know little of the refuge system.

He traces the development of the system, the monumental carnage of the early settlement era and gives details of the operation and the biological significance of the refuge system. This is a book to be enjoyed by both knowledgeable conservationists and laymen.

M.J.C.

NEW PROJECTS

GOOSE ISLAND (Fairfield County, Connecticut). A one-half acre island, part of the Norwalk group, it is a crescent-shaped sandbar with some low vegetation. Once a nesting island for the common tern, there is hope that as a sanctuary it may be sufficiently attractive for the tern to come back. The island is a gift of the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

STILL POND (Fairfield County, Connecticut). See below.

ST. MARKS RIVER HIGHLANDS (Duval County, Florida). One acre of marshland, a portion of an extensive *Juncus-Spartina* marsh association. Gift of Dr. George Cooley.

PANOLA MOUNTAIN (Henry and Rockdale Counties, Georgia). See page 12.

ALTURAS LAKE (Blaine County, Idaho). A 7.2-acre tract of improved property representing the only inholding in the Challis National Forest. As a real threat to the integrity of the forest, the property, which includes a lodge, has had a high priority. Purchased for the U.S. Forest Service.

HENRY REPPA POND SANCTUARY (Suffolk County, New York). In the village of Wading River, Long Island, a 5-acre tract including a lovely small pond, with flora and fauna typical of a fresh-water estuary. Gift of Mrs. Gertrude K. Reppa in memory of her husband.

ST. JOHN'S POND (Nassau County, New York). Another fine project of the Long Island Chapter, this pond-side tract of 6 acres is oak covered with laurel understory and some marsh.

TODE PRESERVE (GRASSY SPRAIN) (Westchester County, New York). 33 acres of woodland located within the city of Yonkers on the east side of Grassy Sprain Road. A gift of Mrs. Arthur M. Tode.

CEDAR BOG (Champaign County, Ohio). Part of the last remaining cedar bog in Ohio, this 105-acre tract of swamp forest and bog has been under the surveillance of the Ohio Chapter for some time as they awaited its availability. Another 98 acres are owned by the Ohio Historical Society.

WILBUR AND LAURA GROVES "COLLINS WOODS" (Belmont County, Ohio). Nearly twenty acres of virgin walnut, white oak, and poplar, with some of the trees clear of branches at a height of eighty feet. This area has been

CAL HOOD

Still Pond, a ten-acre gift in Greenwich, Connecticut, from Mr. and Mrs. James A. Shellenberger, is an area of exceptional beauty. The area, a haven for pheasants, grouse, wood ducks, black ducks, and mallards, as well as many other birds, is described by Charles A. Clark, Chairman of the Connecticut Chapter, pictured above at the 2-acre pond on the property, as "one of the most valuable contributions in recent years to the preservation of open space in our community."

presented to the Conservancy by John and Toni Bedway in memory of their parents.

ROCK BRIDGE FORK (Wolfe County, Kentucky). A 290-acre tract adjacent to the Daniel Boone National Forest. Forested and rocky. Held for the U.S. Forest Service.

KETTERLINUS PRESERVE (Hancock County, Maine). A 3.5-acre addition to a 1966 project of the Conservancy, a fir and spruce covered tract along the Maine Coast. The addition like the preserve is a gift of Miss Eugenia Ketterlinus.

BRISSON TRACT (Alger County, Michigan). A 560-acre hardwood forest with 9,000 feet of frontage on Rock River. An inholding in Hiawatha National Forest on Lake Superior.

HANNACROIX RAVINE (Albany County, New York). A 96-acre addition to a project established during 1968, bringing the total acreage to 103. The preserve is a deep water-cut gorge through which a small stream runs, cascading the length of the ravine.

FRANCES MILLER SANCTUARY (MECOX BAY) (Suffolk County, New York). A little over an acre and a half of salt marsh on Long Island, the refuge of many wading birds. Admission by permission. The marsh is a gift of Mrs. Frances Miller.

VAN SICKEL WOODS (Holmes County, Ohio). A 39-acre climax forest at the edge of the glacial border. On the east side of the property is a beautiful waterfall. The area, protected for over 60 years from fire and grazing, supports a second-growth stand of tulip trees, white ash, sugar maple, beech, wild cherry, dogwood, bitternut, sassafras and oak.

NO BUSINESS RIDGE (Unicoi County, Tennessee). A 396-acre hardwood inholding in the Cherokee National Forest. This project represents a cooperative effort with the United States Forest Service and is the Conservancy's second 1968 project in the state of Tennessee, a state in which there previously had been none.

(Editor's Note: The ten states in which The Nature Conservancy has had no active projects are Delaware, Louisiana, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Utah, and Wyoming.)

SELMET TRACT (Pendleton County, West Virginia). 1,380 acres of mixed hardwoods on mountainside, with river frontage. Being held for the U.S. Forest Service.

CONSERVANCY OFFERS 6-ISLAND HAWAII TOUR

The Nature Conservancy will offer a 6-island tour of Hawaii following the National Conference in Seattle August 22-23, 1969. The tour will depart from San Francisco or Los Angeles August 23 and Seattle August 24. Priced at $524 from San Francisco (or $544 from Seattle) the tour lasts 14 days and will visit Oahu, Maui, Molokai, Hawaii, Kauai, and Lanai.

Special events which will be of interest to Conservancy members include visits to Kanaha Pond on Maui, where more than 50 species of Hawaiian birds have been observed, and to the new Waiehu Natural Area, also on Maui, habitat of many rare plants. Opportunities to observe rare birds will abound. Visits to private homes and gardens not ordinarily open to the public have been arranged. A highlight of the tour will be the all-day trip to Hana to visit the Valley of the Seven Sacred Pools and to see the magnificent Kipahulu Valley. The day will end with an authentic Hawaiian luau at Hana.

Special arrangements have been made for natural scientists and historians conversant with the area to join the group at various places.

On each of the six islands, the emphasis will be on the great natural attractions: a cruise on the Wailua River to Evergreen Cave on Kauai; to Lanai for a beach picnic and sightseeing; a steak fry in the Iao Valley of Maui; a tour of the volcanoes; a trip over the world-famous coral gardens of Kealakekua Bay in a glass-bottomed boat.

The tour price includes round-trip jet flights on Pan-American Airways, inter-island flights on Hawaiian Airlines, twin-bedded rooms with private baths in first-class hotels, eight meals, sightseeing and excursions, transfers, baggage porterage, and a professional tour director throughout.

The tour will benefit the land conservation program of The Nature Conservancy and is open to members, their family, and friends. To obtain fully descriptive brochures, write Unitours of San Francisco, Unitours Building, Sausalito, California, 94965.

LIFE ON A SPECTACULAR ROCK

by CHARLOTTE HALE SMITH

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Georgia's silent, slumbrous Mt. Panola, awash with gold Confederate daisies against a burning blue sky, looks like a gigantic Rip Van Winkle that has slept a million years.

But the mountain near Atlanta never sleeps.

Panola teems with life. Its rugged, variegated slopes spill over with living worlds, some tiny as water droplets, others large as forests.

Life brims in lakes and pools of collected rain water . . . in oak-hickory forests and on granite outcroppings. Fertile mosses, lichens and scores of other plant species . . . rare and common birds . . . insects and animal families grow there, each destined to play its indispensable part in helping man to learn to maintain his precarious toehold on this earth.

Precisely because Panola Mountain abounds with life — and because *human* lives scarcely have touched it — some scientists call the hulking Rockdale County rock the single most important peak in the Piedmont Plateau and perhaps even along the Eastern seaboard.

Recently the Nature Conservancy, a national organization which preserves valuable American habitats, agreed to cooperate with the Georgia Conservancy, Inc., to buy 550 acres which include the 100-acre mountain.

The price is $200,000 — a bargain, scientists say, considering the peak literally is priceless. How does one put a price tag on the region's last unspoiled granite monadnock?

"Panola would be a bargain at any price," said Dr. Robert Platt, professor and chairman of Emory University's Department of Biology, and a Georgia Conservancy trustee. "The property offers a wide variety of natural habitats. In addition to the exposed monadnock, which simply means a large mass of granite, an erosion remnant which rises above the surrounding land, it includes forests, pastures and agricultural land, a two-acre lake and two small watersheds.

"Scientists have known Panola Mountain for the past 75 years. There are five comparable areas around Atlanta, but Panola was the only one that was protected. Through the years, with quarrying operations and too many people, pressures and picnicking, the others deteriorated — at least, for scientific purposes. One large area was used for Army maneuvers."

Stone Mountain near Atlanta, which is similar to Panola, offers millions of people views of the same rare mosses, lichens and other flora found on the Rockdale County peak. "Stone Mountain's usefulness as a natural area was, for scientific studies, seriously impaired as long as 50 years ago," Dr. Platt explained. "However, the Stone Mountain Commission is preserving every bit of the mountain's natural assets they possibly can. They're doing a splendid job of making Stone Mountain's unusual natural features available to the public."

Panola Mountain's chief value to scientists is that man has ignored it. "What you have is a million-year-old mountain in the process of evolution, unhindered by anyone," Dr. Platt said. "Its granite exposures have been protected from grazing, quarrying, fire and other disturbances. It is a reservoir of gene pools, and abounds in rare plants which occur only on outcrops.

"I first saw Panola in 1939 when I visited Emory and learned that a graduate student had written a thesis on the mountain's flora, listing the plants found there. Dr. Madeline Burbanck, research associate in our biology department, is repeating that work now.

"We need this mountain. It's our last chance to preserve something priceless and irreplaceable, to save a part of our natural environment and the unique plant and animal life that occurs there."

Panola, often called "Hog Mountain" or "Pig Mountain," belonged to the family of the late John E. Yarbrough of Atlanta for more than a quarter of a century before the Georgia Conservancy took an option on the property a year ago.

Mrs. Hugh Manning, Mr. Yarbrough's daughter, recalled that a weekend at the family mountain always seemed like a visit to another country. "We had four cabins and a lake there, and perfect peace," she said. "My family, my sister, one of my brothers, and my father had weekend cabins on the mountain. The roads weren't good and if it rained we couldn't get out.

"I remember it as a place to swim, hike and enjoy the family. Naturalists and botanists from everywhere would visit us at the mountain. My father, who died six years ago, loved the place. I don't think we could have sold it to anybody else he would have liked half so well.

"We always thought the mountain was special, but we didn't dream it was that important. We're so glad it will be preserved."

Dr. William H. Murdy of Emory's Department of Biology calls Panola Mountain one of the finest sites in the Eastern United States to study evolution. "Granite outcrops like those at Panola represent very active sites for plant evolution, or speciation," he said. "These habitats are very ancient. Also, Panola is within a geologic area where plant species from the coastal plain and plant species from the Appalachian region each have their furthest distributions. These regions overlap, so to speak, across Panola Mountain, which makes it a wonderful place for my purposes." Dr. Murdy will conduct plant population studies and a study of evolution there.

At Panola, scientists can study minutely the slow series of stages by which species and habitat evolution takes place, beginning with bare rock and ending with mature forest. Leonard Foote, the naturalist-photographer, explained the process. "It begins with one-celled animals that collect in raindrops which fall on the rock," he said. "These are followed by lichens — first crustose ones which stick to the rock, then foliose lichens which begin to branch away from the rock. Following these come mosses, ferns, then grasses and herbs, shrubs, and finally trees.

"Each of these stages alters the rocks and environment, and each helps to create a microclimate to which it is best adapted. We call the series of stages by which evolution takes place a 'succession.'"

A consortium of state colleges and universities is being formed to direct research programs on Panola Mountain. "Several schools within the consortium have projected enough studies to keep the mountain well used for the next 20 years," Dr. Platt said.

"Dr. Charles Wharton of Georgia State College is doing a population study of small mammals there. Dr. D. A. Crossley, Jr., of the University of Georgia's Department of Entomology will study insects.

"Several of us from Emory will use Panola. I am conducting productivity studies to determine how much energy different kinds of plant com-

munities produce, as compared to energy produced by crops and lumber.

"Dr. P. Edward Bostick of our department will study microbial ecology. Dr. H. L. Ragsdale will study nutrient cycles. And Dr. William D. Burbanck will study the food chains and webs in the lake waters. The Emory Department of Geology also is studying extensively the geochemistry and weathering processes of the rock.

"All this gives some idea of Panola's value to teachers and researchers. We'll use it in our $2,000,000 study of the Altamaha River, a project already underway. The Panola program is an official part of an international biology program which is closely coordinated with similar studies being carried on throughout the eastern part of the United States and elsewhere throughout the world."

A VISIT TO THE BERGER MEMORIAL SANCTUARY

The beavers have left. No one we spoke to seemed to know why. ("It was four or five years ago about.") Trapped, perhaps, or shot. Or they may have, one night, for good reasons of their own, taken a brief last look at their dam and, in the moonlight, glided the hundred or so yards down the draw to the Rappahannock, slipping into the river, the four of them, or six, adults and maturing kits, bent on pioneering a yet untouched stream.

But the beavers leave behind a developed area. What had been a trickle of dark water down a gum and beech and rhododendron covered ravine is now wide and open pond, spiked with stumps and tall dead trees. In the top of one, a pileated woodpecker pauses, thrums, then beats away into the living woods. Acadian flycatchers snatch at gnats and pay no attention to us. But the wood ducks conceal themselves behind stumps, and many black ducks rise, wheel back for a look, then disappear towards the river. A great blue heron determines to make his difficult take-off, and a kingfisher effortlessly makes a catch almost at the point the heron's feet drag on the water. Curiously, a starling is hunched at the top of a tree in the middle of the pond.

In the near distance someone chops with an axe. It is, we discover, a three-man team of surveyors. They are mapping the line between Spotsylvania and Caroline Counties, Virginia. They have discovered a forgotten survey monument. Two-lane highway 17 will soon become four-lane. They do not know exactly where.

Back in the Smiths' yard, we ask Mrs. Smith again about the beavers. No, she had never seen them. Their disappearance, as was their presence, has been, to her, hearsay. But they have certainly gone. No one ever saw much of the beavers anyway. They worked at night. But you knew they were there. And now they are not.

To make us feel better, she tells of the woodchucks that den in the preserve and from there make forays into her garden. She does not really seem to mind. An orange kitten and a young or undergrown black cat wrestle in the easy autumn sunshine. The starling that glides out of the woods and lights on the garage — is it the same we saw earlier looking so forlorn in the woods? A murder of crows moves purposefully towards the beaver pond where jays are baiting an owl. A buzzard floats on an updraft. An inch away from the kitten's claws a leopard frog sprints into a bank of tall grass.

The three of us are silent, thinking of the departed beavers — of Indians and mankind and four-lane highways.

NEWS BRIEFS

1969 ANNUAL MEETING IN SEATTLE

The Twentieth Annual Meeting of The Nature Conservancy will be held on August 22 and 23 in Seattle, Washington. The Board of Governors will meet on Sunday the 24th. Pre-Conference tours of Pacific Northwest projects are being planned, and following the meeting, a 6-island Hawaiian tour will be sponsored by the Conservancy. The International Botanical Congress immediately follows the Conservancy's meeting in Seattle.

Complete information will be mailed to all Conservancy members early in June, at which time reservations may be made. Information on the Hawaiian tour may be found on page 11.

PATAGONIA-SONOITA FIELD LIST

Available to all contributors to the Patagonia-Sonoita Creek Sanctuary is a four-page field list of 216 birds that may be sighted in the sanctuary. The preserve, near Tucson, Arizona, is a beautiful natural area of 310 acres. Sonoita Creek flows the year around through the great cottonwood groves, banks of willows and other trees. Numerous species of flora and fauna are found here, including rare desert fishes, but the sanctuary is especially notable for its marvelous bird population.

William S. Serat, Secretary of the Project Committee for the sanctuary, reports fund raising is nearly completed, but contributions for maintenance are welcome.

NEW QUARTERLY JOURNAL

Dr. F. Raymond Fosberg, member of the Conservancy's National Council and a former Governor, is a consulting editor of *Biological Conservation,* a new quarterly journal, of which Volume 1, Number 1, appeared in October. The journal, in its own words, hopes to "be all-embracing in its scope and to provide a medium for the publication of appropriate scientific and other specialist papers." Subscription orders should be addressed to Elsevier Publishing Co., Ltd., Ripple Road, Barking, Essex, England. Editor is Nicholas Polunin.

NEW NATURAL LANDMARK

On November 2, Mary Caldwell, secretary of the Ohio Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, presented the College of Wooster with a 99-year lease of Brown's Lake Bog, a 1965 project of the chapter. A bronze plaque from the U.S. Department of Interior designating the area as a Natural Landmark was also presented to the College. Nationwide there are only 65 Natural Landmarks.

DAMBACH CHAIRMAN OF NEW SCHOOL

The new School of Natural Resources of Ohio State University opened in 1968 with Dr. Charles A. Dambach, retired chairman of the Ohio Chapter and winner of the Conservancy's Green Leaf Award, as director.

A primary objective of the school is to train managers in the many occupations that deal with natural resources. For citizens of Ohio, explains Dr. Dambach, "it provides a central place to which they can go for the latest information concerning natural resources and unbiased assistance in resource problems." Dr. Dambach adds the thought that in the natural resources area strong intellectual leadership is needed.

Among the programs the school is fostering are soil and water conservation, forestry, fish and wildlife management, and park administration. The school is offering both graduate and undergraduate work leading to a degree.

THE NATURAL HISTORY OF UNDERCLIFF ROAD

Educational Release No. 1 of The Mohonk Trust is a 48-page booklet entitled "The Natural History of Undercliff Road." The booklet is described as giving "a new dimension in nature walks, taking you across a talus slope. Contrary to the indication of the title, it is *not* strictly a local book, for the whole concept is applicable anyplace."

Authors of this initial publication are Daniel Smiley, former governor of the Conservancy and presently a member of the National Council, and Frank E. Egler. The booklet is available for $1 from The Mohonk Trust, Mohonk Lake, New Paltz, New York 12561. The proceeds are invested in the various activities of the Trust in the fields of man's relationship to man and to nature.

NEWSPAPER COMMENT

Working in tight secrecy and ahead of the bulldozers which they feared would soon appear, a small group of concerned conservationists took a huge risk two years ago and put down borrowed money to buy Kent Island, a 110-acre area of unspoiled magnificence in the Bolinas Lagoon.

Leaders of The Nature Conservancy, the Audubon Canyon Ranch, and the Marin Conservation League were concerned that the lagoon would be despoiled and that the wildlife which now inhabits it would be driven away. They risked the wrath of the developers and financial embarrassment in a coup that was both daring and imaginative.

Dr. L. Martin Griffin, Jr., of Kentfield, who headed the fund raising campaign of the three organizations, has now reported the successful ending of the story. The groups have raised enough money to pay off the debts they assumed and the land is now free and clear, and dedicated, in perpetuity, as part of the Marin county park system.

A public debt to the three organizations is shared by all Bay Area residents who cherish this quiet, secluded and uncluttered inlet.

San Francisco *Chronicle*

The Nature Conservancy in Maine, which has snatched four offshore islands and other virgin tracts from the jaws of developers, got a big order at its annual meeting at Bowdoin College.

Robert Binnewies, Chief Ranger at Acadia National Park, asked the group's help in adding 70 offshore islands between Schoodic Point and Isle Au Haut to the park. Not all the islands are inhabited. Some are mere reefs or knobs.

But the islands are vital to the scenic beauty of the park, Binnewies emphasized. Some also harbor nesting colonies of gulls, ducks, and guillemots; others are whale nurseries.

Acquisition of the 70 coastal islands would be a slow process, he indicated. Legislation would have to be enacted to identify them, and then as they came up for sale, the government would buy the islands. Scenic easement, life tenancy, zoning, and other land acquisition techniques would be used, the ranger said.

The effort to "keep the beauty in the bay" would center on the islands stretching out into Frenchmans Bay and proceeding along the coast, with some off Swan's Island and some off Isle de Haut.

In the case of inhabited islands, Binnewies said, selectmen would be approached and encouraged to see the park's point in protecting their natural beauty.

The 70 islands would eventually all fall within the boundaries of Acadia.

Portland *Press Herald*

One of the most recent purchases by the Missouri chapter of The Nature Conservancy is the Pleasant Valley Cave Nature Preserve in Jefferson County. It consists of 40 acres in a rugged and picturesque section of the Ozark foothills. It contains an unusual assortment of features, environments, and habitats.

The preserve contains an oak, hickory, and maple forest, a cedar glade, a small area of old field succession, and a ravine which contains a spring and has its own micro-climate.

Almost all of the animals native to the region have been seen in the area, including deer, raccoon, opossum, skunk, fox, rabbit, and squirrel. A wide variety of field and woodland birds are also observed in the area.

The preserve holds much interest for geologists. The terrain in places is very rugged and steep with geological formations exposed. Some of the outcroppings date back to the late Ordovician period.

The focal point of the preserve is the Pleasant Valley Cave, one of the largest known caves in the northeastern Ozarks. Passages have been traced more than a mile below the surface. Scientists in the field of speleology are studying the cave and its variety of interesting cave life.

The cave is not easily entered. The mouth, about 25 feet in diameter, drops vertically about 50 feet, with few if any handholds. Scientists usually enter the cave in five-man teams with ropes. Children, however, have found ways of entering the cave and some have found it impossible to climb out. These have been rescued, but the possibility of tragedy worries Conservancy members.

One of the predicaments The Nature Conservancy people find themselves in is that while they are securing such areas to preserve the beauty of nature in its wild state, opening of such areas to the general public may destroy them . . . Signs of thoughtlessness and vandalism are already evident within the confines of the preserve . . .

"This is the problem we face al over the nation," the spokesman said . . . "If you really want the idea of nature conservancy brought home to you, just visit some of the wild areas you enjoyed as a child. Take a good look at what has happened to them in 10, 20, or 30 years. Perhaps not many people are interested in land that does not carry a price tag anymore. Yet some of us believe that these rapidly disappearing wild areas are, in fact, priceless.

"Give nature a chance and it will produce a thing of interest and beauty for the benefit of future generations. Give man a chance and he will louse it up, every time."

St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*

Infrequently, reserves have been established expressly to protect single species of butterflies . . . In Washington, The Nature Conservancy took lepidopterist David McCorkle's suggestion to purchase the tiny Moxee Bog. This microhabitat is the location of the only colony of the Silver Bordered Fritillary *(Boloria selene)* in the state. . . . The Conservancy contemplates the purchase of a small acid bog in Door County, Wisconsin, where *Lycaena Epixanthe* (the Bog Copper) flies.

Defenders of Wildlife News

The Ohio Chapter of Nature Conservancy has an amazing record of preserving areas of vanishing natural Ohio. In the past 10 years this zealous but selfless, and almost self-effacing, organization, through private contributions alone has purchased and set aside for posterity some 1,500 acres in our state. The Ohio chapter has seen to the preservation of a tall-grass prairie, a virgin white oak and beech wood-land, a Silurian age dolomite promontory, and an ice age bog among others.

Cincinnati *Enquirer*

MONTEREY-PENINSULA HERALD

The Nature Lesson: a group of young men follow their leader up the gentle slope of Jack's Peak, Monterey County, California. Fund-raising has just been completed on this 1968 project of the Monterey Bay Chapter of the Conservancy.

WILDFLOWER TOURS SPONSORED BY SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

On the weekend of April 12-13, 1969, the Southern California Chapter will stage its fourth annual Wildflower Tours. An average of 2,000 persons have attended each of the Spring Wildflower Tours during the past three years.

Those attending receive tour maps at Antelope Valley fairgrounds in Lancaster, the assembly area, and may then proceed at their own pace to designated locations, at each of which naturalists are stationed to explain the flora and ecology of the area.

The 1969 tours are to be broader in scope than the tours of previous years and are designated as "Ecological and Wildflower Tours." A greater variety of habitats will be visited and a greater emphasis placed on the study of ecological relationships.

CHAIRMEN AND SECRETARIES OF THE CHAPTERS

(Chairmen are listed first, then secretaries)

Arkansas Chapter
S. C. Dellinger, 524 Gray St., Fayetteville
Mrs. H. R. McPherson, Rte. 8, Fayeteville
Southern California Chapter
Al Ryan, 12546 El Merrie Del Dr., San Fernando
Mrs. Elna Bakker, 450 West 43rd, Los Angeles
Tejon (Calif.) Sub-Chapter
Jack M. Zaninovich, Rte. 2, Box 716, Delano
Irma Weill, 2915 Sunset Ave., Bakersfield
Monterey Bay (Calif.) Chapter
John McDaniel, Rte. 1, Box 163, Carmel
Miss Beatrice Howitt, 1006 Benita Ave., Pacific Grove
Northern California Chapter
George R. Downes, 1900 Beach St., San Francisco
Mrs. Virginia David, 1873 Stockton, San Francisco
Colorado Chapter
William T. Garrett, Box 889, Boulder
Miss Nancy Hurley, 10 Adams St., Denver
Connecticut Chapter
Charles A. Clark, 151 Brookdale Rd., Stamford
Thomas A. Gaines, 34 Shady Lane, Stamford
Glastonbury (Conn.) Sub-Chapter
Dana Waring, Highmead, Glastonbury
Raymond Clark, 83 Overlook Rd., Glastonbury
Florida Chapter
Mrs. G. T. Smith, Jr., Rt. 5, Box 202, Ocala
Mrs. T. K. Young, 17300 SW 272nd St., Homestead
Idaho Chapter
Dr. Lyle Stanford, College of Idaho, Caldwell
Franklin Jones, 1304 Eastman, Boise
Illinois Chapter
Cyrus Mark, 1900 Dempster St., Evanston
Dr. Margery Carlson, 2308 Hartzell St., Evanston
Indiana Chapter
Richard V. Molby, 911 Meadow Lane, Bloomington
Mrs. Martha Mosier, 490 W. Washington St., Martinsville
Iowa Chapter
Dr. Paul Christiansen, Cornell College, Mt. Vernon
Dr. Donal DeLisle, Simpson College, Indianola
Kentucky Chapter
Dr. Roger Barbour, Univ. of Kentucky, Lexington
Willard N. Gray, La Center
Maine Chapter
Charles P. Bradford, Pond Rd., Manchester
Miss Dorothea Marston, 1 Sewall St., Augusta
(Winter) 818 Windsor Dr., Sarasota, Fla.
Minnesota Chapter
Albert G. Johnson, Univ. of Minnesota, Minneapolis
Mrs. Margaret Smithberg, 4487 Snail Lake Rd., St. Paul
Missouri Chapter
Dr. William H. Elder, Quarry Rd., Columbia
Mrs. D. S. Millman, 1005 W. 67th, Kansas City
New Hampshire Chapter
Mrs. J. W. Hennessey, Jr., 4 Webster Terr., Hanover
Mrs. John F. McCabe, Antrim
Central New York Chapter
Mr. Frank L. Eldridge, Box 175, Ithaca
Miss Jean Doren, 1302 N. Cayuga St., Ithaca
Eastern New York Chapter
Dr. George R. Cooley, 90 State St., Albany
Miss Jean E. Reid, Box 133, Averill Park
Chapter Office, 135 Western Ave., Albany

Long Island (N.Y.) Chapter
John T. Ricks, East Gate Rd. RD3, Huntington
Samuel C. Yeaton, 36-14 203rd St., Bayside

Western New York Chapter
Lincoln P. Nutting, 1907 Bruce Ln., Grand Island
S. Hugh Paine, Houghton College, Houghton

Ohio Chapter
E. J. Koestner, 2629 Ridge Ave., Dayton
Miss Mary Caldwell, 634 Third Natl. Bank Building, Dayton

Oregon Chapter
Dr. Stanton Cook, Univ. of Oregon, Eugene
Mrs. Frances Newsome, 708 E. 11th, Eugene

South Dakota Chapter
George Jonkel, 1722 Kansas S.E., Huron
Dr. David Holden, S.D. State Univ., Brookings

Texas Chapter
Richard A. Shannon, 3804 Ave. H., Austin
J. R. Brannon, Jr., 200 Lenox St., Carthage

Vermont Chapter
Dr. James Marvin, 303 Swift St., S. Burlington
Perry H. Merrill, 200 Elm St., Montpelier

Virginia Chapter
Robert J. Watson, 2636 Marcey Rd., Arlington
Dr. Elizabeth Sprague, Sweet Briar College, Sweet Briar

Washington Chapter
Thornton Thomas, Box 216, Bellevue
Dr. V. B. Scheffer, 14806 SE 54 St., Bellevue

Inland Empire Chapter
Dr. George E. Hudson, Rte. 1, Pullman, Wash.
Miss Ruth Vanderwall, 504 Water St., Pullman, Wash.

West Virginia Chapter
Ephe M. Olliver, Box 1231, Elkins
Mrs. A. Kyle Bush, 5 Bush Ave., Philippi

Wisconsin Chapter
Paul J. Olson, 4122 Mineral Pt. Rd., Madison
Mrs. Emily H. Earley, 2817 Sylvan Ave., Madison

Westfield River, in Hampshire County, Massachusetts, a part of the Westfield River Wilderness Project of The Nature Conservancy. The forest preserve covers 460 acres and, though typically a northern hardwood forest, contains white pine and hemlock. Project Chairman for the Westfield River Wilderness is Dr. George C. Shattuck, of Cambridge, Massachusetts. Additions along the Westfield River are contemplated. Approximately $15,000 remains to be raised to complete the project.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY
Washington, D.C.

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL CONDITION
JUNE 30, 1968

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS:			
Cash		$ 219,122.96	
Marketable Securities		427,222.76	
Prepaid Expenses		6,053.17	
Total Current Assets			$ 652,398.89
FIXED ASSETS:			
Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment			53,067.48
OTHER ASSETS:			
Deposits			450.00
NATURAL AREAS FUNDS:			
Loans Receivable — Projects	$1,899,879.11		
Less: Provision for Project Forfeitures	293,650.08		
		$ 1,606,229.03	
Land		13,195,465.55	
Total Natural Area Funds			14,801,694.58
SPECIFIC ENDOWMENT FUNDS:			
Cash		$ 1,828.64	
Marketable Securities		418,699.30	
Total Specific Endowment Funds			420,527.94
TOTAL ASSETS			$15,928,138.89

LIABILITIES, EQUITIES AND FUND BALANCES

LIABILITIES:		
Collections Due Chapters	$ 14,162.17	
Payroll Taxes and Withholdings	2,904.25	
Employee Benefit Plan	1,324.61	
Loans and Mortgages Payable on Land	4,838,048.79	
Accrued Payroll	4,583.79	
Project Funds Held by National Office	492,281.00	
Note Payable — Bank	300,000.00	
Total Liabilities		$ 5,653,304.61
DEFERRED INCOME:		
Foundation Grants		76,903.79
NATURAL AREAS FUND BALANCES:		
Equity in Land	$ 8,357,416.76	
Held for Special Purposes	71,173.00	
Unexpended Balance	717,998.62	
Total Natural Areas Funds Balances		9,146,588.38
ENDOWMENT FUND BALANCES:		
Guarantee and Income	$ 426,585.75	
Specific Endowments	420,527.94	
Total Endowment Funds Balances		847,113.69
OPERATING FUND BALANCES:		
Invested in Fixed Assets	$ 53,067.48	
Held for Special Purposes	5,826.60	
Unallocated	145,334.34	
Total Operating Funds Balances		204,228.42
TOTAL LIABILITIES, EQUITIES AND FUND BALANCES		$15,928,138.89

It should be noted that of the Conservancy's $15,928,138 in assets, $13,195,465 is in land and therefore not available for operations, including loans to new projects. The need remains pressing for additional capital and general funds to support the on-going program of The Nature Conservancy.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY
Washington, D.C.

OPERATING FUND
SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS
For the year ended June 30, 1968

INCOME:		
Annual Membership Dues Received	$ 50,734.12	
Less: Allocation to Chapters	17,503.09	
		$ 33,231.03
Contributions:		
National Operations	$ 117,946.03	
Latin American Desk	3,535.60	
Foundation Grants	252,870.51	
Investment Income (Net)	30,866.39	
Recovery of Project Expenses	11,615.64	
Sale of Publications	362.22	
		$ 417,196.39
TOTAL INCOME		$ 450,427.42
EXPENDITURES:		
General and Administrative Expenses	$ 407,782.69	
To Chapters on Allocation of Life Memberships	607.50	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		$ 408,390.19
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURES		$ 42,037.23
ADJUSTMENTS:		
Additions to Fund:		9,863.14
		$ 51,900.37
Subtractions from Fund:		1,925.76
		$ 49,974.61
Fund Balance – July 1, 1967		95,359.73
Fund Balance – June 30, 1968		$ 145,334.34

ENDOWMENT FUNDS
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1968

	Guarantee and Income Fund	Total of Specific Endowment Funds
Fund Balance – July 1, 1967	$ 391,379.51	$ 125,004.39
INCREASES:		
Contributions	$ 732.75	$ 268,350.85
Interest and Dividend Income	15,822.33	16,131.10
Net Gain on Sale of Stock	20,873.49	11,033.47
Prior Years Dividends	—	1,925.76
Transfer from Natural Area Project	—	98.70
Receipts from Life Memberships	13,600.00	—
TOTAL INCREASES	$ 51,028.57	$ 297,539.88
DECREASES:		
Investment Fees	$ 375.65	$ 124.40
Transfer of Net Investment Income:		
To Operating Fund	15,446.68	
To Projects		1,891.93
TOTAL DECREASES	$ 15,822.33	$ 2,016.33
Fund Balance – June 30, 1968	$ 426,585.75	$ 420,527.94

OTHER RECEIPTS NON OPERATING:	
Contributions to Projects-Expended	$3,815,718.49
Special Contributions for Future Acquisitions	61,783.97
GIFTS OF LAND:	$ 625,673.00

Copies of the full financial statement with Auditors notes are available on request.

STAFF MEMBER RESIGNS

It was "back to school" in September for Oakes Ames Plimpton, who, for the previous three years, had been acting very effectively as the Conservancy's legal officer. Mr. Plimpton joined the Conservancy in October 1965, and one of the first results of his association was his paper, "Conservation Easements: A Legal Analysis of Conservation Easements as a Method of Privately Conserving and Preserving Land." *

A graduate of Amherst College and the Harvard Law School, Mr. Plimpton was the recipient of a fellowship from the United States Department of Mental Health for a study of juvenile delinquency. Later he was with the law firm of Harper & Matthews. He is a member of the District of Columbia Bar.

Mr. Plimpton resigned his position at the Conservancy in order to pursue studies in conservation and regional planning. The Conservancy will miss his dedication and devotion to the cause of preservation of natural areas.

* This 34-page paper is available from the National Office ($1). A new paper by Mr. Plimpton, "Legal Aspects of Land Acquisition and Lease under The Nature Conservancy," is also available.

LIABILITY INSURANCE

Inquiry is often made as to the liability insurance coverage on the Conservancy preserves. While it should be reported that no serious injuries have to date occurred within our conservancies, we are protected by a "multi-peril" insurance policy. The policy's effective date on any preserve is the date of its acquisition by the Conservancy. Coverage amounts to $100,000 for personal injuries, for a maximum of three persons for any one accident, and $25,000 for property damage.

Green and white decals featuring the oak leaf and the name of the organization are available to Nature Conservancy chapters at the price of $7.50 per 100. The price includes postage and mailing costs. The decals are 2½ inches by 4½ inches and are suitable for either automobile windows or bumpers, as well as for rural mailboxes and so on.

CONSERVATION COMMANDMENTS

M. Graham Netting
Director, Carnegie Museum; Governor of The Nature Conservancy

1. Study the land so that each acre may be used wisely according to its capabilities and treated according to its needs.

2. Guard well the living soil, that it may continue to nurture man:
   Clothe it lovingly with vegetation,
   Hold on to it tenaciously,
   Restore its fertility and organic content,
   Improve it as a legacy for posterity.

3. Revere water, the lifeblood of civilization:
   Retard it on the surface,
   Trap it in the soil,
   Guard its purity zealously.

4. Cherish forests that they may—
   Conserve water,
   Shelter wildlife,
   Provide for our needs,
   Restore our tranquility.

5. Respect all living things as having a role, however humble, in the balance of nature.

6. Provide living museums, samples of primeval America, to be managed by nature alone, so that they may—
   Serve as reservoirs of wild species that may be needed tomorrow;
   Provide control areas against which man's efforts at management may be measured.

7. Learn to live in harmony with nature in an ecological symphony, a mutually beneficial dependency.

WHAT WE HAVE SAVED AND WHAT WE WILL SAVE IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS WILL BE ALL THAT WILL REMAIN TO BE PASSED ON TO FUTURE GENERATIONS. THERE WILL NEVER BE ANOTHER CHANCE.

I enclose my gift of $ ..... towards The Nature Conservancy's 1968-69 Operations Fund.

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

Contributions are tax-deductible. Please make checks payable to The Nature Conservancy.

1522 K Street, N.W.
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